

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3 and 7-9 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicants' invention. No new matter is added. The features in the claims as amended were present in the originally filed specification.

Claims 4-6 and 10-12 are indicated in the Office Action of November 5, 2004 as being allowable and it is submitted that the claims are still allowable.

35 U.S.C. 101 Rejections

Claims 1-3 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 on the grounds that the claims are allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. As suggested by the examiner on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 7-9 have been amended such that the claims are directed to "a computer-implemented reduction processing method". Applicants submit that the claims are allowable as it is applicants position that the 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection has been overcome.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants' present invention, as recited in the amended claims now more clearly and particularly, is patentable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections in this case is hereby respectfully requested.

If further matters remain in connection with this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned representative to resolve them.

Respectfully submitted,

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